

PROVIDING HUMANITARIAN SUPPORT TO STREET FAMILIES WHO ARE WORST AFFECTED BY COVID-19

NARRATIVE REPORT



Supported by
Sarah Appelt & Chalo
Reisen

Implemented by
Childhood Enhancement
Through Training and
Action



Providing Humanitarian Support to Street Families who are worst affected by COVID-19

Phase -1

The COVID-19 pandemic induced lockdowns have created a major humanitarian crisis in our country. Amidst the national capital, street-connected families and children have been struggling with access to the basic services and resources since the lockdown was announced. As schools are shut, children and families in street situations lose their main access to free daily meals, which pushed them back onto the streets to find sources of income and food.

CHETNA NGO with the support of Chalo Reisen provided relief materials to the people suffering the most during the pandemic and it is encouraging to see that with this support we have been able to make an impact in the lives of the worst sufferers. We aim to continue working actively on the ground in areas where help is most.

CHETNA reached out to such communities that were difficult to reach and were not covered under any welfare schemes of the Delhi government or central government.

- Relief efforts focus on poor and street children and their families. Street-Connected Children are at unprecedented risk of undernutrition and malnutrition, leaving them increasingly vulnerable to health complications.
- We have been distributing dry ration packs and raising awareness about COVID-19.
- Dry ration packs are distributed to families who are most hit by the lockdown and are at the highest risk due to coronavirus.
- More than 400 ration packets have been distributed to 400 households in three settlements (Safedabasti, near Geeta Colony, Sarai Kale Khan, and Shakurbasti near Cement Siding) which includes 923 children and 834 adults.

Ration Packet contained: 5 kg of wheat flour, 3 kg rice, two types of pulses, 1 kg sugar, 1kg Salt, 1/2 kg cooking oil, 250 grams turmeric, chili powder, and coriander powder. Each relief package weighs an average of 15 kg and can sustain a family of 6 for 2 weeks.

440
ration packs

440
families

993
children

1034
adults.



Quotes from Beneficiaries

Suman Devi (name changed), a resident of East Delhi slum, and a mother of two children shared that she and her husband could not sell fruits since the lockdown. With no income, they have no option but to rely on the support received from donations. She shared ***“No government official has visited this place till now and we have not received any ration or financial help from the government. We are thankful for this support because you seem to care about us”***.

A 65-year-old woman, Mohini (Name Changed) living in a slum told that ***‘There was silence in these slums at the time of lockdown, no goods were available to us and all people were facing the problem. Time to time Relief program by CHETNA NGO and their supporter was very helpful. Whenever the representatives of the Organization used to come here, there is a wave of happiness among the children and parents, because of the help provided by you gives a lot of support to us.’***

Through your donation, we have been able to provide support to these families and children and continue working to help them. You truly make a difference for us, and we are extremely grateful!

Ration distribution in Safeda Basti, Geeta Colony



Ration Distribution at Sarai Kale Khan



Ration distribution in J.J. Colony Anand Vihar



Phase 2

Woolen Cloth and Blankets distribution

Winters in many parts of India can be very harsh, especially for street children who don't have access to woolen clothing or cover. There are many street-connected and underprivileged children who cannot afford even a blanket and suffer without a roof or cloth on their bare bodies. Keeping in view of severe cold conditions in northern parts of India, CHETNA NGO with the support of Chalo Reisen, distributed winter clothes and blankets to children and their families.

Distribution Process

During the implementation of Warm Clothes Distribution, we followed a very structured procedure to avoid unwanted problems occurred during the distribution. Firstly, CHETNA NGO, with the help of local people and team members, prepared a list of potential beneficiaries emphasizing the street-connected children.

The activities of the distribution include:

- Buying woolens, blankets, and other items and placed
- them at various distribution points.
- Transportation of the same from shop to central locations for segregation.
- Segregation of items into different categories woolens, blankets, and other items of clothing, miscellaneous.
- Distribution of items to locations spread across Gurugram including under flyovers, traffic light signal, etc.
- We have distributed 50 winter cloth sets to 100 children residing in Gurugram slums and on the streets.



The cold wave victims at different slums in Gurugram and on streets expressed gratitude and sheer happiness after receiving warm clothes distributed under the winter clothes distribution initiative. According to them, they received the winter clothes very timely and CHETNA is the first organization that reached to them this winter. Also, they expressed deep satisfaction with the quality of the woolen clothes as it might save them in this chilly winter.

All of them were happy to get the woolen clothes and were also excited that now they would be able to protect themselves from cold winds. The initiative of CHETNA NGO and Chalo Riesen has a positive effect on the children. All the beneficiaries appreciated and thanked us for human service and public interest.

"These clothes and blankets given by CHETNA have come as a blessing to us", says 12-year-old, Vivek (name changed) who lives in a slum who received his black jacket and blue-black cap, proudly showing off his zipped pocket.

Mr. Munna Lal, (a resident of Gurugram slum and father of four children) says, *"Every year we had to spend Rs. 2,000- 3,000 on clothing for all the family members, and given our financial condition, we used to borrow money or even send children to work but now I do not have spent children on clothing."*



Winter clothes were distributed to children with the help of traffic police in Gurugram

Distributed warm blankets to the neediest in Gurugram

People sleeping on the street without wearing any cloth on their bodies and without having any blanket to preserve their bodies as well. Few of the children were sleeping with their family on rickshaws due to the fear that their rickshaws would get stolen. Thus, after understanding their needs, at CHETNA NGO with the support of Sarah, we have taken quick steps in meeting the daily winter needs of natives living in marginalized communities and on streets. In our blanket distribution drive, we have distributed thousands of blankets and old clothes better in terms of quality and comfort. This support turned out as a savior for many. With the help of the Traffic Police of Gurugram and team members, we distributed blankets after a basic survey to identify the beneficiary and then distributed more than 200 blankets

**50 Warm
clothes**

**50
children
benefited**

**200
blankets**

**200
children
and family
benefited**



Blankets distribution to children in Gurugram



Ration Distribution

Besides the COVID 19 outbreak and fear of getting infected, the negative impact of lockdown on the life and livelihood of the poor and marginalized people are hunger and poverty. Even before COVID, these families struggled a lot for their survival but the COVID outbreak has just exasperated their survival. The basic needs (clothes, shelter, and food) of these families remain incomplete. During the time of COVID, the greatest challenge for these families was to satiate their hunger. In these uncertain times, the only hope for these family's donations and NGOs which provide support to them. We distributed **100** ration packs to **100** households which include **223** children and **169** adults. These families residing under Iron bridge in east Delhi near the Yamuna river.

100
ration
packs

100
household

223
children

169
adults

No. of packets: - 100

Packets contained: 5 kg of wheat flour, 3 kg rice, two types of pulses, 1 kg sugar, 1kg Salt, 1/2 kg cooking oil, 250 grams turmeric, chili powder, and coriander powder. Each relief package weighs an average of 15 kg and can sustain a family of 6 for 2 weeks.

Sita Devi, who hails from West Bengal and has been residing in Delhi for the last 8 years said, *"We are completely dependent on the people who bring food or ration for us. We only able to feed children twice or sometimes once a day as whatever ration we had is over now. We are happy that people like you are concerned about us and provided us the ration"*.

"Many waste pickers do not have a home address, and as a result, we do not get Aadhaar card and cannot avail any benefit from Government, we don't have any job to survive and hardly able to get food for a day. This support is for us as a blessing" says Akram.







Phase 3

Winter clothes distribution

Street-Children and families living at Nehru camp and Valmiki camp Delhi fight with poverty and helplessness to meet their basic requirements or amenities of day to day life. It became routine of the street children's life that after getting up in the morning, they either beg or collect garbage for the entire day. They even do not have proper clothes on their full-body; some only wore a torn t-shirt on their upper body while some do not have a single sweater. This is how poor children are living their life with the crisis of food, clothes, in pandemic and winter.

CHETNA NGO gave winter clothes to 50 street-children. Getting the clothes, the children got so happy and we can see that happiness in their eyes also. They changed clothes to new ones and shouted to one other with full of happiness that "I got a new warm jacket". CHETNA Team also got happy to see the big smile on the faces of the disadvantaged children.

50 winter
clothes set

50 children
benefited





Overall impact

- A total of **540** ration packs were distributed, benefiting a total of **540** families, which includes **1216** children and **1203** adults.
- A total of **100** winter clothes packages distributed, benefiting a total of **100** children in dire need of warm clothes.
- A total of **200** blankets were distributed, benefitting **200** children and their families.

We are incredibly grateful for your donations to support street-connected children their families in these uncertain times, and we especially appreciate your generosity and the commitment you've shown to the community.

